

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
White River Field Office  
73544 Hwy 64  
Meeker, CO 81641

## DOCUMENTATION OF LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE AND NEPA ADEQUACY

NUMBER: CO-110-2005-145-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER (optional): To Be Determined

PROJECT NAME: August 2005 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: See Attached

APPLICANT: BLM/Colorado State Office

ISSUES AND CONCERNS (optional): Due to problems with invalid legal land descriptions, parcel #2960 and part of parcel #2957 have not been analyzed in this document.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The BLM proposes to sell oil and gas leases on nine parcels of public lands/minerals, comprising 9,047.97 acres, in August of 2005. Four of the nine parcels contain "split-estate" lands with private surface overlying federal mineral estates. These parcels would be offered at public auction along with several other parcels in other jurisdictions. Following the auction, any unsold parcels could be sold non-competitively. Each lease would be issued subject to stipulations identified in the White River ROD/RMP. Additional, site-specific analyses would take place upon submission of individual Applications for Permit to Drill (APDs).

LAND USE PLAN (LUP) CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The proposed action is subject to the following plan:

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

X The Proposed Action is in conformance with the LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

See page 2-5 of White River ROD/RMP

Decision Language: “Make federal oil and gas resources available for leasing and development in a manner that provides reasonable protection for other resource values.”

— The Proposed Action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

#### REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:

List by name and date all existing NEPA documents that cover the Proposed Action.

Name of Document: White River Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

List by name and date any other documentation relevant to the Proposed Action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

Name of Document:

Date Approved:

#### NEPA ADEQUACY CRITERIA:

1. Is the Proposed Action substantially the same action and at the site specifically analyzed in an existing document?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes. Leasing and subsequent development of oil and gas resources are specifically analyzed in the PRMP/FEIS: see pages 3-3, 3-4, and Appendix D. With the exception of certain formally identified Wilderness Study Areas, oil/gas leasing is provided for throughout the resource area, subject to stipulations and conditions of approval identified in Appendix A and Appendix B to the ROD/RMP. Stipulations specific to the lands considered for leasing are attached to this DNA

2. Was a reasonable range of alternatives to the Proposed Action analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s), and does that range and analysis appropriately consider current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes, five alternatives, covering a full range of oil and gas leasing options, were addressed in the PRMP/FEIS (see Table 1-1). No reason to identify and analyze additional alternatives for the lands involved in this proposal have been identified or raised, and these alternatives are considered to be adequate and valid for the proposed action.

3. Does the information or circumstances upon which the existing NEPA document(s) are based remain valid and germane to the Proposed Action? Is the analysis still valid in light of new studies or resource assessment information?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The analysis in the RMP remains valid. Previous analyses were based upon a reasonable foreseeable development scenario that estimated the drilling of approximately 1100 wells, over the twenty year life of the plan (roughly 55 per year). To date, the average number of wells drilled has been approximately 50 per year. Total disturbance was estimated at 10 acres per well (to include the pad, the road, and the pipeline). To date, the average disturbance per well has been less than 5 acres. No new site specific studies or resource assessment information has been received regarding any of the listed parcels.

4. Does the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the Proposed Action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes. The methodology and analytic approach used in the PRMP/FEIS are appropriate for the current proposed action. No new technologies or methodologies have been proposed or are warranted.

5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the Proposed Action unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes. The anticipated direct and indirect impacts from oil and gas leasing/development are addressed in a resource-specific fashion in the PRMP/FEIS, based on a reasonable foreseeable development scenario that, to date, remains accurate. The anticipated direct

and indirect impacts of the proposed action are the same as those addressed in the PRMP/FEIS, and they were adequately addressed therein.

6. Are the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the Proposed Action unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

Documentation of answer and explanation

Yes. The cumulative impacts of oil and gas developments, as well as other resource management actions, were addressed in the PRMP/FEIS based on a reasonable foreseeable development scenario, and has, to date, proven accurate. If implemented, the proposed action would not change this analysis, nor would it require new or additional analyses. The anticipated cumulative impacts of the proposed action are within the range of impacts analyzed in the PRMP/FEIS.

7. Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with the existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the Proposed Action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The public, interested groups, and other agencies, were fully involved in the development of the PRMP/FEIS.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:** Identify those team members conducting or participating in the NEPA analysis and preparation of this work sheet (by name and title).

The proposed action was presented to, and reviewed by the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on 05/17/2005.  
Date

A list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office.

<b>Name(s)</b>	<b>Title(s)</b>	<b>Area of Responsibility</b>
Michael Selle	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Paleontological Resources
Ed Hollowed, Bret Smithers, Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Animal Species, Threatened and Endangered Plant Species, Wildlife, Migratory Birds, Wetlands and Riparian Zones
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Wilderness, Recreation, Access and Transportation, Visual Resources
Carol Hollowed	Hydrologist	Air Quality , Soils, Water Quality, Surface and Ground Hydrology and Water Rights

<b>Name(s)</b>	<b>Title(s)</b>	<b>Area of Responsibility</b>
Robert Fowler, Melissa Kindall	Forester, Range Technician	Vegetation, Invasive, Non-Native Species, Forest Management,
Ken Holsinger	Natural Resource Specialist	Fire Management
Penny Brown, Linda Jones	Realty Specialist	Realty Authorizations

**REMARKS:**

*Cultural Resources:* While cultural properties could be identified on the lands proposed for lease, no site specific surveys have been completed. Prior to approval of any site specific permits, such surveys would be required. Any identified properties or sites would be avoided, or mitigated, prior to being disturbed.

*Native American Religious Concerns:* There are no known Native American Religious Concerns.

*Threatened and Endangered Species:* A lease stipulation which alerts lessees of potential requirements regarding any threatened or endangered species is included in all parcels.

**MITIGATION:**

See attached site specific Lease Stipulations derived from the White River RMP.

**COMPLIANCE PLAN (optional):** None

**NAME OF PREPARER:** Vern Rholl

**NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:** Caroline Hollowed

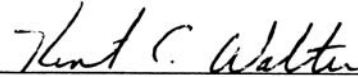
**DATE:** 05/23/2005

## CONCLUSION

CO-110-2005-145-DNA

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the land use plan and that the NEPA documentation previously prepared fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:



Field Manager

DATE SIGNED:

5/25/05

Note: The signed Conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision.

## PARCEL LOCATIONS/LEASE STIPULATIONS

### **PARCEL ID: 2907 and 2958 SERIAL #:**

T. 0010S., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 2: Lot 1-4;  
Sec. 2: S2N2,S2;

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 622.880 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils:

T. 0010S., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 2: Lot 3, 4;  
Sec. 2: S2N2, S2.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-08 to protect big game severe winter range:

T. 0010S., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 2: Lots 2, 3;  
Sec. 2: S2NE, SENW, NESW, N2SE.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-LN-02 to alert the lessee of potential requirements to protect paleontological values:

T. 0010S., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 2: Lot 1.

PVT/BLM;BLM; CDO: WRRRA

### **PARCEL ID: 2953 SERIAL #:**

T. 0020S., R 0980W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 22: NESE;  
Sec. 23: N2SW;  
Sec. 27: NWNE,NW,W2SW;

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 400.000 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils:

T. 0020S., R 0980W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 22: NESE;  
Sec. 23: N2SW;

Sec. 27: W2W2.

PVT/BLM;BLM; CDO: WRRRA

**PARCEL ID: 2954 SERIAL #:**

T. 0020S., R 0980W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 31: Lot 7-10,12-20;  
Sec. 32: Lot 1-4;  
Sec. 32: NE;

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 777.160 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils:

T. 0020S., R 0980W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 31: Lots 12, 13, 15-20;  
Sec. 32: Lots 1, 2;  
Sec. 32: S2NE.

BLM; CDO: WRRRA

**PARCEL ID: 2960 SERIAL #:** *This parcel needs to be deferred for further review of the legals listed. Most are not valid legal descriptions for the land involved. Almost all of the lands which appear to be included do not contain federally owned oil and gas.*

**T. 0010N., R 0940W., 6TH PM**

**Sec. 16: N2NE;**  
**Sec. 28: Lot 38,40;**  
**Sec. 29: Lot 1,3,5,13,14;**  
**Sec. 29: N2,N2SW,NWSE;**  
**Sec. 30: Lot 2,3;**  
**Sec. 30: E2E2,E2W2;**  
**Sec. 31: Lot 1;**  
**Sec. 32: Lot 1,4,35;**  
**Sec. 32: TR TR 64 LOT 5,TR 68 LOT 25;**  
**Sec. 32: NESE;**  
**Sec. 33: Lot 1-5,7,12,14;**  
**Sec. 33: NENE,S2NE,N2S2;**

**Rio Blanco County**  
**Colorado 1662.940 Acres**

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

PVT/BLM;BLM; CDO: WRRRA

**PARCEL ID: 2956 SERIAL #:**



T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 26: TR TR 72 LOT 26; *This legal description needs to be changed to Sec. 26: Lot 26.*  
Sec. 27: Lot 40;  
Sec. 34: Lot 1-3,6;  
Sec. 34: N2SW,NWSE;

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 265.200 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 34: Lots 1-3;  
Sec. 34: NWSE.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-LN-02 to alert the lessee of potential requirements to protect paleontological values:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 34: Lot 6.

BLM; CDO: WRRRA

**PARCEL ID: 2957 SERIAL #:**

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 2: NENE; *Should be lot 1, which is private minerals...DELETE*  
Sec. 20: S2NE,N2NW,SEnw,S2;  
Sec. 28: Lot 7,9,11,29;  
Sec. 31: Lot 4;  
Sec. 32: TR TR 71 LOT 23,24;  
Sec. 32: TR TR 70 LOT 7,9; *TR 70 Lots 7 & 9 are in sec. 29 and are private minerals...DELETE*

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 723.870 Acres *Should be 671.76 after deletion of private minerals.*

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-03 for the protection of raptor nests:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 28: Lots 7, 9, 11, 29.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 20: SWNE, E2NW, S2;  
Sec. 28: Lots 7, 9, 11.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-05 to protect bald eagle nest, roost, and perch habitat:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 28: Lot 29;  
Sec. 32: TR 71 Lot 23.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-02 to protect bald eagle nests:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 28: Lot 7.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-04 to protect raptor nests:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 20: SESE;  
Sec. 28: Lot 29.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-05 to protect bald eagle roost/concentration areas:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 28: Lot 7.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-08 to protect big game severe winter range:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 20: S2NE, N2NW, SENW, S2;  
Sec. 28: Lots 7, 9, 11, 29.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-LN-02 to alert the lessee of potential requirements to protect paleontological values:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 28: Lot 7.

PVT/BLM; CDO: WRRRA

**PARCEL ID: 2959 SERIAL #:**

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 3: N2SW;  
Sec. 4: NESW,S2SW,NESE;  
Sec. 9: E2,N2NW;  
Sec. 10: N2,N2SW,SE;  
Sec. 11: W2NW,SEnw,SW;  
Sec. 14: Lot 4,5;  
Sec. 15: E2;  
Sec. 17: N2NE,W2W2;  
Sec. 21: Lot 3;  
Sec. 21: SWNW,SW;  
Sec. 22: Lot 1,3;  
Sec. 23: Lot 8;

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 2372.580 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-03 to protect raptor nests:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 11: S2NW, SW;  
Sec. 15: W2SE;  
Sec. 17: NWNW;  
Sec. 21: S2SW.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 3: NWSW;  
Sec. 4: S2SW;  
Sec. 9: N2NW;  
Sec. 10: SESE;  
Sec. 11: NWNW;  
Sec. 17: N2NE;  
Sec. 21: SW.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-04 to protect raptor nests:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 10: SENE, E2SE;  
Sec. 11: NWNW;  
Sec. 15: SWNE;  
Sec. 17: NENE.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-08 to protect big game severe winter range:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 3: N2SW;  
Sec. 4: NESW, S2SW, NESE;  
Sec. 9: E2, N2NW;  
Sec. 10: N2, N2SW, SE;  
Sec. 11: W2NW, SENW, SW;  
Sec. 14: Lots 4, 5;  
Sec. 15: E2;  
Sec. 17: N2NE, W2W2;  
Sec. 21: SWNW, SW.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-LN-02 to alert the lessee of potential requirements to protect paleontological values:

T. 0010N., R 0950W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 3: N2SW;  
Sec. 4: NESW, S2SW, NESE;  
Sec. 9: E2, N2NW;  
Sec. 10: N2, N2SW, SE;  
Sec. 11: W2NW, SENW, SW;  
Sec. 14: Lots 4, 5;  
Sec. 15: E2;  
Sec. 17: N2NE;

Sec. 21: Lot 3;  
Sec. 21: E2SW;  
Sec. 22: Lots 1, 3;  
Sec. 23: Lot 8.

PVT/BLM; CDO: WRRRA

**PARCEL ID: 2913 SERIAL #:**

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 19: Lot 5-8;  
Sec. 19: E2,E2W2;  
Sec. 20: ALL;

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 1258.120 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

All lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-08 to protect known and potential threatened, endangered, and candidate plant habitat:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 19: E2;  
Sec. 20: All.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-09 to protect sensitive plants and remnant vegetation associations:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 20: SWSW.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-08 to protect big game severe winter range:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 20: S2SE, NESE.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-LN-02 to alert the lessee of potential requirements to protect paleontological values:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 19: E2NW, E2.

BLM; CDO: WRRRA

**PARCEL ID: 2914 SERIAL #:**

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 29: ALL;  
Sec. 30: Lot 5-8;

Sec. 30: E2,E2W2;

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 1259.200 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

All lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-08 to protect known and potential threatened, endangered, and candidate plant habitat:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 29: NE, NWNW, SENW, E2SW, SE;  
Sec. 30: NENE, W2NE, E2SW, SE.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-09 to protect sensitive plants and remnant vegetation associations:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 29: SENE, SESW, W2SE.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-08 to protect big game severe winter range:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 29: NE, NENW, S2NW, S2;  
Sec. 30: SE.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-LN-02 to alert the lessee of potential requirements to protect paleontological values:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 29: All;  
Sec. 30: Lot 8;  
Sec. 30: E2, E2W2.

BLM; CDO: WRRRA

**PARCEL ID: 2915 SERIAL #:**

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 31: Lot 5-8;  
Sec. 31: E2,E2W2;  
Sec. 32: ALL;

Rio Blanco County  
Colorado 1261.080 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal.

All lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-08to protect known and potential threatened, endangered, and candidate plant habitat.

All lands are subject to Exhibit WR-CSU-01 to protect fragile soils.

All lands are subject to Exhibit WR-TL-08 to protect big game severe winter range.

All lands are subject to Exhibit WR-LN-02 to alert the lessee of potential requirements to protect paleontological values.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-06 to protect Areas of Critical Environmental Concern:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 32: All.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR-NSO-09 to protect sensitive plants and remnant vegetation associations:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 31: Lots 7, 8;  
Sec. 32: E2SW, N2SE.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit WR- LN-03 to alert the lessee of potential restrictions due to wild horse habitat:

T. 0020N., R 0990W., 6TH PM  
Sec. 32: SESW, SE.

BLM; CDO: WRRRA